



Quarterly Report

THIRD QUARTER FY 2010

Aug. 2010

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), a federal stimulus program passed by Congress in February 2009 to reinvigorate the economy and diminish the recession's impact on the American people, continues to be a valuable tool for cities to revitalize their communities and help those whom the economic downturn has affected most. Arlington was awarded with \$18,587,313 to be implemented in nine separate areas ranging from energy efficiency programs to combating narcotics trafficking. In the third quarter of FY2010, the fourth reporting period for the ARRA, many of these programs are beginning to have a noticeable impact in local communities.

The City strives to maximize transparency so that citizens can see exactly where and how these tax payer dollars are being spent. Arlington will continue to track and report spending and ARRA-dollar supported job statistics resulting from these grants.

Quarterly spending reports are posted at www.arlingtontx.gov/recovery/index.html along with stories of recent milestones and achievements. The City of Arlington continues to work to maximize the impact and benefit that these funds will generate.

Homeless Assistance and Rapid Re-Housing Program

One of the key programs funded by the ARRA is the Homeless Assistance and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). The goal of this program is to provide temporary rental assistance to families and individuals who are either in danger of losing their housing or have already become homeless. The HPRP provides short and medium-term rental assistance, credit repair, utility assistance, security deposits, referrals to education and employment resources, case management services and much more to meet the unique needs of many different Arlington families. To maximize its effectiveness, HPRP funding is used by the Arlington Housing Authority as well as by local non-profit organizations such as the Salvation Army, Arlington Life Shelter, Safe Haven and Catholic Charities. Over the duration of the HPRP, nearly 500 households are expected to receive rental assistance, and additional households will benefit from case management and referral services.

With Help from the HPRP, More Families Are on the Path to Self Sufficiency

This year, Salvation Army Case Manager Marcie Reckinger is helping more Arlington area families with rental assistance thanks to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and \$1.15 billion for homelessness prevention nationwide.

Locally, the HPRP is preventing homelessness and rapidly returning homeless individuals and families to housing stability. In America's communities, the homeless shelter is just one step away from life on the street.

At the Salvation Army Family Life Center on Abram Street, stimulus funding is helping a mother and her daughter who slept in their vehicle for about two months before applying for temporary rental assistance.

After receiving HPRP assistance, the family became eligible for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program at the Arlington Housing Authority. Today, that family is on the path to self-sufficiency.

From her office, Marcie Reckinger works one-on-one with sheltered clients in need of rental assistance. She provides assistance with employment and childcare, and pairs clients with organizations that can assist them with the transition.

With the additional funds of the HPRP, the waiting list for housing has been reduced by as much as 10 percent, she said. The agency is currently on pace to meet their performance goals.

"It makes me feel really good to know that we're able to help those who need a step up," Marcie said. "This program is significantly impacting Arlington families and it's making a difference in many ways."

The HPRP also helped a single mother of six avoid homelessness. With only a part-time job and the social security from a child with a disability, the Arlington mother was at risk of



Salvation Army Case Manager Marcie Reckinger provides rental and employment assistance to a client.

losing housing when their rent money was stolen, according to the Arlington Housing Authority.

Her family and friends were unable to assist, but the HPRP stepped in to provide one month of rental assistance. Today, her part-time nursing assistance job is full-time, and the single mother is continuing her education to become a registered nurse.

The program is helping families pay utility bills, security deposits, moving expenses, and rent checks to either avoid eviction or move from transitional housing into their own apartments. Read more success stories at www.ArlingtonTX.gov/Recovery.

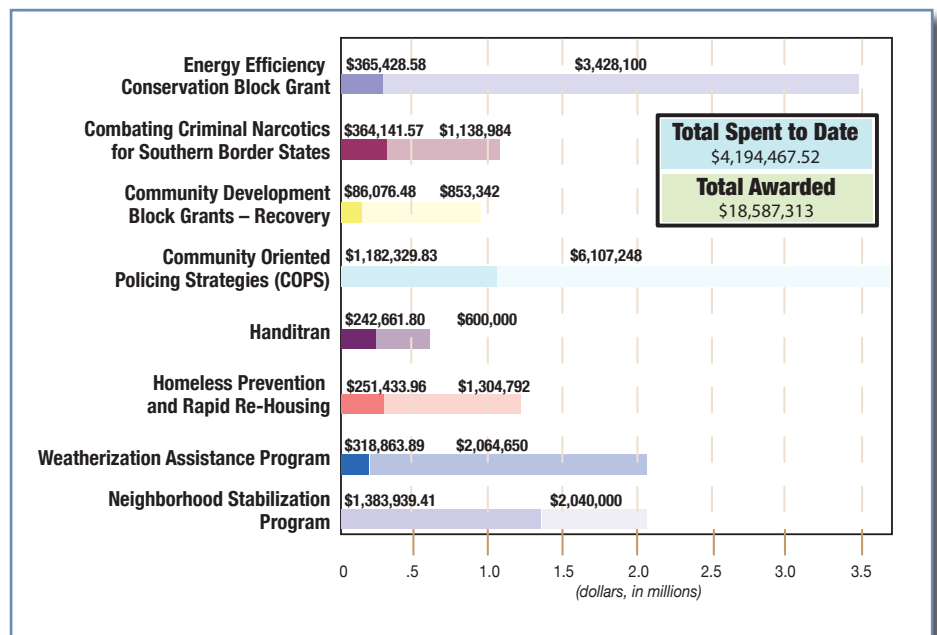
Other milestones achieved in this quarter include:

- Energy-efficient mechanical and electrical work on the Facilities Services building is now complete.
- Twenty-three new police officers hired under COPS completed their field training and will begin patrolling in August, and all vacant officer positions have been filled as of July 26.
- Housing assistance, case management, and referrals to community services have resulted in stable housing for 132 low-income families in Arlington.
- Construction plans are under way for a neighborhood infrastructure project that will improve the lives of 6,505 residents of a low-income area and make available numerous construction jobs.
- Additional energy-saving programs, such as a measure to reduce idling emissions in the City's fleet, have gained Council approval and are entering the final stages of planning and development.
- The Domestic Highway Enforcement Unit attended interdiction training to learn new techniques for locating smuggled contraband and apprehending suspects.

FY2010 Fourth Quarter Plans

Neighborhood infrastructure projects will continue to address vacant homes by remodeling them and making them accessible to citizens who otherwise might not be able to secure housing. The LED lighting upgrades at the Convention Center will be completed, and additional energy-efficient lighting will be installed at other City facilities. The City will continue to provide technical assistance to organizations operating homeless prevention programs and monitor the effectiveness of this program to ensure that funds are used to benefit eligible low-income families. Most of the police recruits hired under the COPS program will begin regular patrols in August, and the additional recruits who were hired later will be working on the second phase of their training. The Domestic Highway Enforcement Unit will be fully operational as of July 13, and the Arlington Transportation Pilot Program, a job access program, should be under way, connecting low-income residents with better jobs through improved access to transportation.

More information on the Arlington ARRA funding can be found at www.arlingtontx.gov/recovery/index.html.



- ARRA – American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
- EECBG – Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grants
- CDBG-R – Community Development Block Grants-Recovery
- Byrne JAG – Byrne Justice Assistance Grants
- COPS – Community Oriented Policing Strategies
- DOJ Combating Criminal Narcotics for Southern Border States – Department of Justice Combating Criminal Narcotics for Southern Border States

